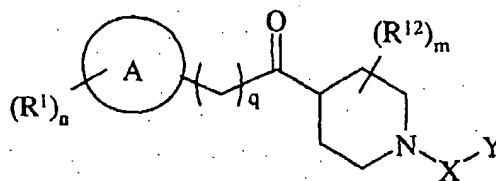


Claims

1. The use of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

Ring A is selected from carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁹;

- 10 R¹ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyloxy, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R¹ may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R³; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁴;
- 20 n is 0-5; wherein the values of R¹ may be the same or different;
- X is a direct bond, -C(O)-, -S(O)₂-, -C(O)NR¹¹-, -C(S)NR¹¹-, -C(O)O-, -C(=NR¹¹)- or -CH₂-; wherein R¹¹ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, carbocyclyl and heterocyclyl;
- Y is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R²; wherein if said
- 25 heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁵;
- R² is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyloxy, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl,
- 30

N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, aminothiocabonylthio, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminothiocabonylthio, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂aminothiocabonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R² may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁶; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁷;

R³ and R⁶ are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R³ and R⁶ may be independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁸; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R¹³;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁷, R⁹ and R¹³ are independently selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl and phenylsulphonyl;

R⁸ is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxymethyl, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl or *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl;

Z is -S(O)_a-, -O-, -NR¹⁰-, -C(O)-, -C(O)NR¹⁰-, -NR¹⁰C(O)-, -OC(O)NR¹⁰- or -SO₂NR¹⁰-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R¹⁰ is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₄alkyl;

R¹² is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1;

q is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11 β HSD1.

5

2. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ring A is phenyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl, thienyl, cyclopentyl, pyridyl, furyl, thiazolyl, 1,3-benzothiazolyl, benzofuryl or benzothienyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10 3. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-2 wherein R¹ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, carbocyclyl and carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R¹ may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R³; wherein

15 R³ is selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; and

Z is -S(O)_a- or -O-; wherein a is 0 to 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20 4. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-3 wherein n is 0-3; wherein the values of R¹ may be the same or different; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25 5. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-4 X is -C(O)-; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-5 wherein Y is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R²; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains
30 an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁵; wherein

R² is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, amino, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino,

N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂aminothiocarbonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R² may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁶;

R⁶ is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R⁶ may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁸;

10 R⁵ is selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl and C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl;

Z is -S(O)_a-, -O-, -NR¹⁰-, -C(O)- or -OC(O)NR¹⁰-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R¹⁰ is selected from hydrogen; and

R⁸ is selected from halo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15

7. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-6 wherein R¹² is 4-methyl, 4-ethyl, 4-propyl or 3-methyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-7 wherein q is 20 0; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. The use of a compound of formula (I) as depicted in claim 1 wherein:

Ring A is phenyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl, thienyl, cyclopentyl, pyridyl, furyl, thiazolyl, 1,3-benzothiazolyl, benzofuryl or benzothienyl;

25 R¹ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, cyano, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, carbocyclyl and carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R¹ may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R³; wherein

30 R³ is selected from halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; and

Z is -S(O)_a- or -O-; wherein a is 0 to 2;

X is a direct bond, -C(O)-, -S(O)₂-, -C(O)NR¹¹-, -C(S)NR¹¹-, -C(O)O-, -C(=NR¹¹)- or -CH₂-; wherein R¹¹ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl, carbocyclyl and heterocyclyl;

Y is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R²; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁵; wherein

5 R² is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, amino, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂aminothiocarbonylthio, carbocyclyl, 10 heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R² may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁶;

R⁶ is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein 15 R⁶ may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁸;

R⁵ is selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl and C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl;

Z is -S(O)_a-, -O-, -NR¹⁰-, -C(O)- or -OC(O)NR¹⁰-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R¹⁰ is selected from hydrogen; and

R⁸ is selected from halo;

20 R¹² is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1; and

q is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11βHSD1.

25

10. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-9 selected from:

1-(3-fluoro-4-methoxybenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(quinoline-3-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(quinoline-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

30 1-(5-trifluoromethylfur-2-yl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

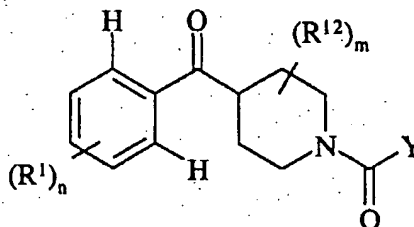
1-(3-trifluoromethoxybenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(tetrahydrofur-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(5-trifluoromethylfur-2-yl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

- 1-(pyrid-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;
 1-(thiazol-4-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;
 1-(3,3,3-trifluoropropionyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;
 1-(4-fluorobenzoyl)-4-(3-mesybenzoyl)piperidine;
 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound of formula (Ig):



(Ig)

- 10 wherein:

R^1 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, cyano, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylS(O)₂, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)sulphamoyl or N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂sulphamoyl; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3 ;

n is 0-3; wherein the values of R^1 may be the same or different;

- 15 Y is phenyl, pyrimidine, furan, thiophene or thiazole; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2 ;

- R^2 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkanoyloxy, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂amino, C_{1-4} alkanoylamino, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl- N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)sulphamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonylamino, aminothiocarbonylthio, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)aminothiocarbonylthio or N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂aminothiocarbonylthio; wherein R^2
 20 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6 ;

- 25

R^3 and R^6 are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkanoyloxy, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂amino, C_{1-4} alkanoylamino, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl,

N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl or C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino; wherein R³ and R⁶ may be independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁸;

- 5 R⁸ is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxymethyl, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl or *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl;

10 Z is -S(O)_a-, -O-, -NR¹⁰-, -C(O)-, -C(O)NR¹⁰-, -NR¹⁰C(O)-, -OC(O)NR¹⁰- or -SO₂NR¹⁰-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R¹⁰ is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₄alkyl;

- 15 R¹² is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

 m is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

with the proviso that said compound is not 1,4-dibenzoylpiperidine;

4-hydroxy-1,4-dibenzoylpiperidine; 1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)-1-benzoylpiperidine;

- 20 1,4-di-(4-methylbenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine;

1-(3-nitrobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine;

1-(2-methoxy-4,6-ditrifluoromethylbenzoyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(2,6-difluorobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine;

1-(3-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)-4-(benzoyl)piperidine;

- 25 1-(4-aminobenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(2-chloro-4-nitrobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine;

1-(4-*t*-butylbenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine;

1-(2,4-dihydroxybenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

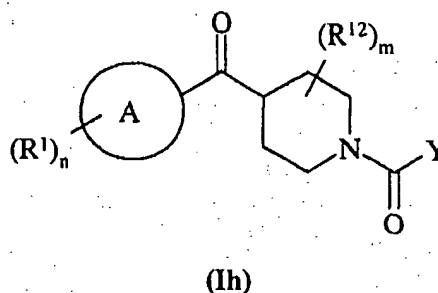
- 30 1-(pyrid-3-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(thien-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine;

1-(thien-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-methylbenzoyl)piperidine; or

1-(fur-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine.

12. The use of a compound of formula (Ih):



5 wherein:

Ring A is selected from carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^9 ;

R^1 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkanoyloxy, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-4} alkanoylamino, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl) $_2$ carbamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylS(O) $_a$, wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)sulphamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl) $_2$ sulphamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclyl C_{0-4} alkylene-Z- and heterocyclyl C_{0-4} alkylene-Z-; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3 ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^4 ;

n is 0-5; wherein the values of R^1 may be the same or different;

20 Y is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2 ; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^5 ;

25 R^2 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkanoyloxy, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-4} alkanoylamino, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl) $_2$ carbamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl- N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)sulphamoyl,

N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, aminothiocabonylthio, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminothiocabonylthio, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂aminothiocabonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R² may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁶; and wherein if said

5 heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R⁷;

R³ and R⁶ are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino,

10 *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC₀₋₄alkylene-Z-; wherein R³ and R⁶ may be

15 independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁸; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R¹³;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁷, R⁹ and R¹³ are independently selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl,

20 *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl and phenylsulphonyl;

R⁸ is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxyl, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl,

25 *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl or *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl;

Z is -S(O)_a-, -O-, -NR¹⁰-, -C(O)-, -C(O)NR¹⁰-, -NR¹⁰C(O)-, -OC(O)NR¹⁰- or

30 -SO₂NR¹⁰-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R¹⁰ is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₄alkyl;

R¹² is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11 β HSD1.

13. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, in association with a
5 pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

14. A compound of the formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, for use in a method of prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of a warm-blooded animal, such as man.

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15. A compound of the formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, for use as a medicament.

16. The use of a compound of the formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable
15 salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the production of an 11 β HSD1 inhibitory effect in a warm-blooded animal, such as man.

17. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1-9, 12 and 16 wherein production of, or producing an, 11 β HSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of metabolic syndrome.

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18. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1-9, 12 and 16 wherein production of, or producing an, 11 β HSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of diabetes, obesity, hyperlipidaemia, hyperglycaemia, hyperinsulinemia or hypertension, particularly diabetes and obesity.

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19. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1-9, 12 and 16 wherein production of, or producing an, 11 β HSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of glaucoma, osteoporosis, tuberculosis, dementia, cognitive disorders or depression.

20. A method of producing an 11 β HSD1 inhibitory effect in a warm-blooded animal, such as man, in need of such treatment which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as claimed in any one of claims 1-10, or a compound

of formula (Ig) as claimed in claim 11, or a compound of formula (Ih) as claimed in claim 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.